

## Executive Proclamation

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County employees began providing inpatient behavioral health care for our community in 1880 when the first hospital opened, treating all residents regardless of the severity of their illness or their ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County partnered with community leaders, advocates, individuals with lived experience, experts in mental health, community and private health care in 2010 to begin the redesign of our mental health system to move away from an inpatient and institutional setting, to build a community-based model that meets people where they are with better access, No Wrong Doors, culturally competent care, stigma reduction and racial equity;

WHEREAS, This collaborative work has achieved multiple milestones including the creation of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board, the expansion of community-based behavioral health services, and a decrease in adult inpatient hospital admissions, psychiatric crisis visits and emergency detention visits;

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Services today includes the largest network of behavioral health providers in the state of Wisconsin focused on prevention, access, treatment, care management and recovery support services and BHS staff are regarded as national and local experts in behavioral health care;

WHTREAS, The Milwaukee County Mental Health Complex and Psychiatric Crisis Services (PCS) are closing, giving way to the redesigned system of behavioral health care in Milwaukee County, a system that would not be possible without the outstanding work of dedicated employees and whose success will be achieved through their continued thought leadership, expertise, and commitment; now, therefore

 $\it I, DAVID\ CROWLEY$ , County Executive of Milwaukee County, on September 9, 2022, do hereby acknowledge and commend

## The Employees of Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Services

for their hard work and tireless dedication to providing exceptional behavioral health services to the

Milwaukee County community.

David Crowley

Milwaukee County Executive